



Rockwell Collins Craft Club

March 2012

Is it safe to assume that winter is over? My money is on one more big snow storm. I don't remember a winter with such a small amount of snow EVER in my life before. I would still like to use my new snow shoes a few more times! I am, however, thinking a lot about Easter, which is coming up on April 8th. I am including some photos of cute ideas that I have found. This month is our Potluck/Bingo meeting and next month we will have a fun new craft with one of our newer members, Casey Holland. I also found some great artwork on etsy.com, so have made that into some Easter Hershey wrappers, which we will have available at the meeting for you.

- ☀ Bingo & Potluck for this month's meeting. We will celebrate St. Patrick's Day and St. Joseph's Day. So wear your green (for St. Paddy) or red (for St. Joseph) and bring some tasty food. You can make green or red food, but anything tasty is welcome. The club will provide sandwiches. Bring your own drink.
- ☀ Remember — Don't park in the Credit Union spots when you come for our meeting. Remember—listen to the winter weather school closings. If there is no school, then we cancel our meeting.
- ☀ Condolences to Joyce Smith and her family. Joyce's mother-in-law (also named Joyce) passed away February 28th at the age of 96. She had lived with Joyce and Gary for the last couple years.
- ☀ Our charity project for last month was Green Square Meals. We collected \$40 for them.
- ☀ Our charity this month is the Catherine McAuley Center. Some items on their Wish List are pencils, disposable diapers and wipes, shampoo, conditioner, lotion, feminine products, deodorant, boxed potatoes, crackers, canned chicken, tuna, tomatoes, beef stew. Paste, spaghetti sauce, peanut butter, tomato sauce & paste, dry beans, rice, cereal, canned fruit. They do not need canned vegetables.. They also accept cash donations.
- ☀ Last month we had the ladies from Gems of Hope once again. They have added Bookmarks to their items, so we made earrings, cards, and bookmarks, with each person choosing what they wanted to make. We also gave them a donation towards buying more supplies.
- ☀ If you have any specific color wishes for your bracelet making next month, please let me know and we'll see if we can accommodate you. Casey says that 2 colors can be used in the same bracelet, she just melts the ends of the two together. So for you Red Hatters, Red & Purple are definitely an option.



This Month at a Glance
Next Meeting: Wednesday March 21 at 4:30 Main Plant Cafeteria
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How to Make Your Own Gel Air Freshener (http://www.makestuff.com/air_freshener.html)

You can make your own great smelling gel air fresheners, using liquid potpourri, or from scratch. They make great gifts!

You will need:

- 2 cups of distilled water
- Essential oil/fragrance of your choice.
- 4 packages of Knox gelatin
- Food coloring (optional)

Heat 1 cup of water almost to a boil. Add the gelatin and stir until dissolved. Remove from heat add another cup of distilled water, 10-20 drops of oil/fragrance, and food coloring if desired.

You can replace food coloring and oil/fragrance with pre-made liquid potpourri (Available at most craft stores, candle shops, etc.). Just make sure it's the concentrated kind or it won't retain its smell. The procedure would be the same. Heat 1 cup of the liquid potpourri, almost to a boil. Stir in 4 packets of Knox gelatin, until dissolved. Then stir in 1-cup cool liquid potpourri.

Pour the mixture into clean baby food jars and set at room temperature overnight until "set". You can place the jars in the refrigerator if you need them to set more quickly, but be aware that the smell will permeate the fridge.

For gift giving, you can decorate the baby food jars by wrapping with material, or gluing on wallpaper, stickers, wrapping paper, etc.

To use, place the jar on the stovetop (not directly on the burner!) while cooking, heat in a potpourri burner, or simply set out on a table and enjoy the aroma.

Thanks to Margaret Latham, MAGPIE@stic.net, for this addition:

I have made my own gel fresheners by using the concentrated liquid potpourri (1-cup) instead of water and essential oils. I buy mine at the local "dollar" store so the investment is small. I don't have any problems with mold growing. I've given several containers away that I made and everyone enjoys them tremendously. My portions are as follows:

- 1 c. concentrated liquid potpourri
- 2 envelopes Knox unflavored gelatin
- Empty jar

Heat potpourri until almost to a boil. Remove from heat and add 2 envelopes of gelatin. Stir to dissolve gelatin and pour into clean decorative jar. Place piece of plastic wrap over jar and secure with rubber band. Either place in refrigerator for quick set or leave out overnight on counter. Cover with piece of starched "lace" and wrap with ribbon to decorate. Before using, remove plastic wrap and recover jar with lace cover. Hope my hint helps with this wonderful craft idea.

TIPS:

Several readers wrote in that they were having a problem with mold. Daria recommends adding 2 T. of salt to the mixture to inhibit the growth of mold. Another user recommends adding a splash of vodka. And another suggests potassium sorbate, which is used in food preservation. NOTE: This is not the same as GEL CANDLES, which we also get a lot of inquiries about. Try visiting Downeast Scents or The Chemistry Store for instructions and materials for making the gel candles. For more information on Essential Oils, you'll want to check out the Essential Oils Directory from mothernature.com

HAPPY EASTER EVERYONE





These are made using disposable frosting piping bags from Wilton (get at Michael's) and fill with puffy cheese balls. Tie with green curling ribbon. I have also seen them made with Goldfish crackers or Annie's cheddar bunny crackers.

All I Need to Know About Life I Learned from the Easter Bunny

Don't put all of your eggs in one basket.
Walk softly and carry a big carrot.
Everyone needs a friend who is all ears.
There's no such thing as too much candy.
All work and no play can make you a basket case.
A cute little tail attracts a lot of attention.
Everyone is entitled to a bad hare day.
Let happy thoughts multiply like rabbits.
Some body parts should be floppy.
Keep your paws off other people's jellybeans.
The grass is always greener in someone else's basket.
An Easter bonnet can tame even the wildest hare.
To show your true colors you have to come out of your shell.
The best things in life are still sweet and gooey!



May your troubles be less, may your blessings be more, and
may nothing but happiness come through your door.



A man was blissfully driving along the highway, when he saw the Easter Bunny hopping across the middle of the road. He swerved to avoid hitting the Bunny, but unfortunately the rabbit jumped in front of his car and was hit. The basket of eggs went flying all over the place. Candy, too.



The driver, being a sensitive man as well as an animal lover, pulled over to the side of the road, and got out to see what had become of the Bunny carrying the basket. Much to his dismay, the colorful Bunny was dead.

The driver felt guilty and began to cry.
A woman driving down the same highway saw the man crying on the side of the road and pulled over. She stepped out of her car and asked the man what was wrong.

"I feel terrible," he explained, "I accidentally hit the Easter Bunny and killed it. What should I do?"

The woman told the man not to worry. She knew exactly what to do. She went to her car trunk, and pulled out a spray can. She walked over to the limp, dead Bunny, and sprayed the entire contents of the can onto the little furry animal.

Miraculously the Easter Bunny came back to life, jumped up, picked up the spilled eggs and candy, waved its paw at the two humans and hopped on down the road. 50 yards away the Easter Bunny stopped, turned around, waved and hopped on down the road another 50 yards, turned, waved, hopped another 50 yards and waved again!!!!

The man was astonished. He said to the woman, "What in heaven's name is in your spray can?" The woman turned the can around so that the man could read the label. It said: "Hair spray. Restores life to dead hair. Adds permanent wave."

Happy Birthday!

March

8th — Vi Brislawn

22nd — Rowena Aburto

28th — Donna Hepker

29th — Pam Hoffman

April

8th—Donna Gelski

13th—Esther Miceli

23rd—Dorothy O'Malley

23rd—Marj Pepin

Birthdays are good for you; the more you have, the longer you live.

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